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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/874,098	06/04/2001	Wei William Wu	5043P010	6034

8791 7590 11/25/2003

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EXAMINER

SAM, PHIRIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2661

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DATE MAILED: 11/25/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/874,098

Applicant(s)

WU ET AL.

Examiner

Phirin Sam

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 7.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Soncodi (U.S. Patent 6,111,881).

Soncodi discloses the invention (**claims 1, 3, and 5**) as claimed including a method comprising:

- (a) fixing a logical identifier for a signal line at an egress interface (see Fig. 4, elements c2020, c2040, and c5020, col. 5, lines 58-62).
- (b) mapping a first physical identifier for a first physical signal line to the logical identifier (see Fig. 4, elements c20, c30, and c50, col. 5, lines 56-62).
- (c) remapping a second physical identifier for a second physical signal line to the logical identifier responsive to a line failure on the first physical signal line (see Fig. 4, elements c20, c40, c50, or c2030, and c5030, col. 6, lines 3-21).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 6-98 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Byers (U.S. Patent 5,959,996) in view of Reveles et al. (U.S. Patent 6,075,785).

Regarding claims 6-9, Byers discloses an apparatus comprising:

- (a) a bus interface (see Figs. 2 and 3, elements 302, 324, and 316, col. 4, lines 1-9, 33-38).
- (b) an ingress time slot interchange (ITSI) module (see Fig. 2, element 232, col. 3, lines 39-42, 54-65).
- (c) a switch fabric coupled to the ITSI module (see Figs. 2 and 4, element 34, col. 3, lines 46-49, and col. 4, lines 62-65).
- (d) an egress time slot interchange (ETSI) module having a plurality of inputs, each input assigned a logical identifier which remains fixed after initialization (see Fig. 2, element 232, col. 3, lines 39-42, 54-65).

Byers does not disclose a translation module to translate an incoming signal identifier to one of the logical identifiers independent of a physical line on which the signal is received. However, Reveles et al. discloses a translation module to translate an incoming signal identifier to one of the logical identifiers independent of a physical line on which the signal is received (see Fig. 3, abstract, col. 3, lines 19-58). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the translation module teaching by Reveles et al. with Byers. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide to map and to locate the proper location for each incoming data from the congestion. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Reveles et al. and Byers to obtain the invention as specified in the claims 6-9.

6. Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soncodi (U.S. Patent 6,111,881) in view of Koenig et al. (U.S. Patent 6,351,452).

Regarding claims 2 and 4, Soncodi does not disclose rewriting the cross connect table and preventing change to the identifier after initialization. However, Koenig et al. discloses rewriting the cross connect table and preventing change to the identifier after initialization (see Fig. 8, col. 5, lines 13-24, and col. 14, lines 9-48). At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine rewriting the cross connect table and preventing change to the identifier after initialization teaching by Koenig et al. with Soncodi. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide to map and to locate the proper location for each incoming data and to designate each data to prevent from the congestion. Therefore, it would have

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been obvious to combine Koenig et al. and Soncodi to obtain the invention as specified in the claims 2 and 4.

Response to Arguments


7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Any query concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to the examiner, Phirin Sam whose telephone number is (703) 308 – 9294. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday from 8:30AM – 4:00PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas W. Olms can be reached at (703) 305 – 4703. The fax number for this group is (703) 872 – 9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305 – 4700.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Phirin Sam
Patent Examiner
November 23, 2003